

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00598 250609Z

11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01

ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 /139 W

----- 060025

R 250525Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1565

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL ZURICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0598

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OPEC, QA
SUBJ: AMIR OF QATAR ON OIL PRICES

REF: DOHA 0481

1. DURING MAY 24 CONVERSATION WITH AMIR OF QATAR, SHAYKH KHALIFA BIN HAMAD AL THANI, I ASKED ABOUT GOQ POSITION ON OIL PRICES AT FORTHCOMING OPEC MINISTERIAL IN BALI. AMIR IMMEDIATELY RESPONDED "FREEZE". AMIR EXPLAINED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD COMPLETELY BOOMERANG EFFECT THAT PRICE HIKE WOULD HAVE ON SUCH OIL PRODUCERS AS QATAR, WHICH REQUIRED TO IMPORT ALMOST EVERYTHING. I SAID US COULD NOT AGREE MORE THAT INFLATIONARY IMPACT OF ANY PRICE RISE WOULD HURT ALL.

2. AMIR WENT ON TO CRITICIZE TACTICS OF SAUDI OIL MINISTER YAMANI. HE SAID YAMANI'S BULLYING MANNER HAD ALIENATED THOSE OPEC MEMBERS OPPOSED TO HIS VIEWS ON PRICING. ACCORDING KHALIFA, DURING RECENT VISIT OF YAMANI TO DOHA, HE (THE AMIR) HAD ADVISED HIM TO TRY BRINGING ALONG THOSE WHO OPPOSED HIS PRICE POSITION BY PERSUASION RATHER THAN BY PUSHING THEM AROUND. AMIR COMMENTED THAT HE FOUND YAMANI "BRILLIANT BUT STRANGE".

3. AMIR SAID IT WAS HIS BELIEF THAT DETERMINING POSITION ON OIL PRICES WOULD BE WORKED OUT DURING SAUDI KING KHALID'S CURRENT TALKS WITH THE SHAH IN TEHRAN. IN ANY CASE, HE SAID THAT GOQ WOULD SUPPORT SAUDI PRICE POSITION AT BALI.
PAGANELLI

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Message Attributes

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